

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to better define the claimed invention and to better distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. Support for the amendment can be found throughout Applicants' originally filed Specification, for example at page 4, lines 8-13; page 10, line 27 to page 11, line 10; page 12, lines 3-9; page 14, lines 10-14; and page 16, line 22 to page 17, line 1. No new matter has been entered.

Turning to the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirsch et al. (U.S. 2004/0209133; hereinafter "Hirsch"), amended independent claim 1 requires, in part, "wherein the concentration of the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel is adjusted to power generation, and the permeation control film and the shutter member control the movement of the constituent of the fuel, and the supplementary liquid is more concentrated than the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel." It is respectfully submitted that Hirsch fails to teach or suggest at least these features of Applicants' independent claim 1.

Hirsch fails to teach or suggest that the "concentration of the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel is adjusted to power generation," as required by independent claim 1. Instead, Hirsch teaches that MDF 112 and the fuel delivery regulation assembly 120 control both the flow of the fuel from fuel tank 110 to vapor chamber 116 and the vaporization of the liquid fuel. See e.g., Hirsch paragraphs [0049] and [0051]. However, the concentration of the fuel does not change when the fuel flows from fuel tank 110 to vapor chamber 116. Thus, Hirsch provides no teaching or suggestion that the "concentration of the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel is adjusted to power generation," as required by independent claim 1.

Moreover, Hirsch fails to teach or suggest "the supplementary liquid is more concentrated than the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel," as required by Applicants' independent

claim 1. Rather, Hirsch simply teaches that "the liquid fuel undergoes a phase change and becomes a vaporous fuel as it passes through the MDF 112 into the vapor chamber 116."

Hirsch, paragraph [0049]. As noted above, the concentration of the fuel does not change when the fuel flows from the fuel tank to the vapor chamber. Thus, Hirsch cannot be said to teach or suggest Applicants' claim 1 requirement that "the supplementary liquid is more concentrated than the liquid fuel in the fuel vessel."

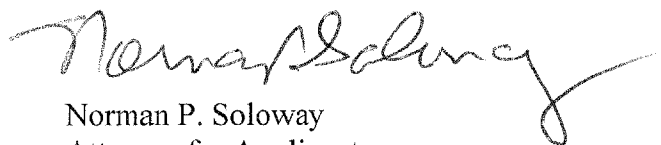
For at least the foregoing reasons it is respectfully submitted that Hirsch cannot be said to anticipate or render obvious Applicants' independent claim 1. Claims 3, 4 and 6-12 all depend, either directly or indirectly, upon independent claim 1 and are therefore allowable over Hirsch for at least those reasons adduced above relative to independent claim 1, as well as for their own additional limitations.

RCE fees are being paid via EFS WEB in the amount of \$810.00.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent Office via the electronic filing procedure on June 8, 2010.

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